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FEEDBACK

BOOK REVIEWS

FRAGMENTS
by Sam Dolgoff.

Sam Dolgoff, editor and translator of *Bakunin on Anarchy; The Cuban Revolution: A Critical Perspective; The Anarchist Collectives: Workers' Self-Management in the Spanish Revolution*, is now nearly 83 years old. He started life more than half a century ago as a working hobo on the railroads and waterfronts, in lumber camps, canneries, steel mills. Caught up early in ideas of radical social change, he moved from reformist socialism to anarchism, publishing his first piece, a criticism of Gandhi, in the anarchist journal *Road To Freedom*. As a member of the IWW he became a strong propagandist for libertarian labour movements - incidentally teaching himself to read six different languages - lecturing across America in union halls, civic centres and colleges.

Under the pen name Sam Weiner he has published innumerable articles in labour and anarchist periodicals, many of which he helped to found and edit. Now a retired house painter he does not intend to retire from the movement for the emancipation of the oppressed from social, political and personal serfdom. *Fragments* is a memoir - personal recollections drawn from a lifetime of struggle in the cause of anarchism.

Available from Refract Publications, c/o Cambridge Free Press, Unit 6, 25 Gwydir Street, Cambridge CB1 2LG. 208pp (illustrated). Price £7.

1984 AND ALL THAT

Plenty of people rewrite history according to their fancy – at least, *1984 and all that* admits to doing it. It's a 'second look' at history by Stephen Green 'in the worst possible taste', as he proclaims – in fact, a piss-take, produced to help local environmental organisations in Crewe. It's available from:

Steve Green,
133 Wistaston Green Road,
Wistaston, Crewe. CW2 8RA

Just send a donation.

MARCUS GRAHAM

It has recently come to our attention of the death of the veteran anarchist revolutionary Marcus Graham. Graham lived most of his early life in the semi-clandestine world where many fighters for freedom have occasion to find themselves.

Known by various names it was once widely believed that his true name was Robert Parsons and that he was Canadian. In fact he was a Rumanian Jew, who, with his family emigrated to the United States in 1911 when he was fourteen. He worked as a garment cutter both in the States and Canada where he first took on the name Parsons to avoid deportation because of his connections with the anarchist movement.

In January 1933 he started the paper *Man!* which was the organ of the International Group in San Francisco. *Man!* was one of the great papers of the anarchist movement and during the 1930's it never failed to come to the defence of the 'fighters' within the anarchist movement, those men and women who carried the flag of the forgotten or unpopular causes, and whom if ever mentioned in the 'established' libertarian press, were either cast as bandits or provocateurs.

In 1940 the American government closed down *Man!*, it was all too much for them. Graham carried on the struggle and was involved with many groups over the years, he never ceased to support the militant wing of the movement. Even in old age he managed to upset the 'apologists' within the movement by giving his vocal support to the various guerilla groups in Europe and North America.

Graham wrote many articles for *Black Flag*, in 1977 Cienfuegos Press published an edited version of *Man!* with a long semi-autobiographical note by Graham. He also wrote *Marxism and a Free Society*. He was without doubt a revolutionary to the end.

Salud Comrade.

CL.

SQUATTING NEWS

Pullens Estate

At 6.15am on Tuesday 10 June a large group of squatters and sympathetic tenants were out on the streets ready to resist the long awaited evictions. At approx. 6.30am a convoy of bailiffs, police, subcontractors and removal vans came onto the estate to begin evictions. Due to massive resistance and heavily barricaded squats it took over an hour to evict the first squat. In the meantime the convoy of vans which had stopped in Amelia St because of various people letting down tyres and harassing the drivers etc. By this time scuffles had broken out between police and squatters trying to stop the boarding crews moving in. A few arrests were made and more scuffles followed in an attempt to stop the arrests. Police were posted to the entrances of the stairwells to protect the bailiffs from the hoards of angry squatters. The sickening sound of sledgehammers smashing into doors could be heard above all the screaming and shouting. When eventually the bailiffs did get into the flats the occupants and their belongings were thrown onto the streets only to be welcomed by the cheering and clapping of their comrades supporting them. Tempers were running high. Photographers and media were running around everywhere to get the best shots. A band had struck up playing and continued all through the evictions. In Penton Place a cordon of approx. 15 police was set up to protect the removal men as squatters had thrown removal equipment from the back of the vans onto the street.

The more artistic elements of the squatting community decided to redecorate the pigs by throwing green and white paint and the odd shit sandwich from the roof tops and windows. This was followed up by several buckets of water to give them a final rinse. Some carpenters who had been brought onto the estate were talked out of boarding up and left to the delightful applause from the street. The heavens opened and down came the rain. It seemed like it had put a damper on things and presence on the street was low but the best of the barricades was yet to come on Peacock St. It took them over 45 mins to get through one of the doors which was enforced with boards, steel and barbed wire with a concrete block behind it. The evictions finished about midday as the re-squatting was taking place. A solicitor called round the resquatted flats to confirm the occupation before 2.15pm when the keys were supposed to have been handed over the the prospective tenants.

The following day the carpenters returned to put on doors where the 'pre-allocatees' were 'confirmed'. To date we know that out of the 26 flats evicted, 19 are still re-squatted and 7 tenanted.

Source: The Wire

HUNGARY

In February 1986 in Budapest Hungary the socialist cops arrested and expelled European Greens leafletting locals about the dangers of nuclear power.

At the same time the Kadar regime welcomed Rupert Mudoch's SkyChannel satellite TV programmes. It's free thanks to advertisers like Hitachi, Nissen and Unilever. Since 1956 the 'socialism' of the State has been free-enterprise style even lately through the Hungarian State Bank banking Eddie Shah's *Today* daily newpaper venture.

ANARCHIST PICNIC!

Sunday July 6 – Noon
King George V Playing Fields
(Behind the swimming pool and library)
Chiltern Avenue, Amersham , Bucks.
(Amersham tube. Buses: 336,353, 362)
C@C

LONDON DEMONSTRATION

July 7th and 8th. Two days of solidarity with Hopi and Navajo people facing massacre at Big Mountain, Arizona. Pickets outside the US Embassy (Grosvenor Square London SW1) from 4-7pm on July 7th (London Greenpeace) from 12-2pm on July 8th (BM Support Group).

July 8th. Picket outside Tottenham Police Station (Tottenham High Rd, near Seven Sisters tube station) from 6-8pm in solidarity with all those arrested after Tottenham uprising in October 1985.

July 10th. National Demonstration Against Racist Laws called by NALGO trade union. Starts 1pm from Coronation Gardens (E10) March to Hackney Town Hall.

July 26th. Women's March Against Male Violence. Starts 12 midday at Hyde Park in central London. March to Trafalgar Square. (Women only)

July 28th. Day of protest against Social Security cuts called by London and South-East Federation of Unemployed Claimants and unwaged groups. For more information contact Tottenham Claimants Union,
628 High Road, London N17.

TERRY DEAN ON HUNGER STRIKE IN BRIXTON JAIL

Terry Dean on remand in Brixton jail for charges arising out of the September riots in Brixton has asked for support and correspondence. He is currently on hunger strike in protest at his victimisation, he has been told he will not go to trial until December this year and has already been treated as though 'guilty'.

T.J. Dean B77879
HM Prison,
Jebb Avenue, Brixton, London SW2.



From the Art of Anarchy: *Frank Little, IWW member, speaking from a soapbox in Fresno, California in 1910. Fellow worker Little was murdered by police.*

BLACK FLAG PUBLICATIONS

The Anarcho-Quiz Book. Questions and answers from *Black Flag*, compiled by Albert Meltzer. Illustrated. First published in 1976, here we have the facts you would nave loved to have up your sleeve for that argument the other night! **£1.00**

The Art of Anarchy. Flavio Co stantini's drawings bring to life events from our history including the actions of Ravachol, Henry & Bresci. The profits from the sale of this book will go directly to the Anarchist Black Cross, for aid to prisoners and resistance fighters everywhere. **£3.00**

Miguel Garcia Story. This 72 page pamphlet was published in 1982 to complement Miguel's first book *Franco's Prisoner*. It deals with the years from his childhood through an eye witness participant's account of the anti-fascist uprising that became the Spanish Revolution up to his imprisonment in 1949. Fifty years on, his story makes lively and inspiring reading. Miguel died in 1981. A second part of the pamphlet is personal appreciations from four of his comrades. **£1.00**

Also available are back copies of the Anarchist Quarterly magazine for £0.50p All prices include Postage and Packaging. Donations towards the costs of publishing are welcome though!
Available from *BM Hurricane, WC1N3XX*

No.157

BLACK FLAG

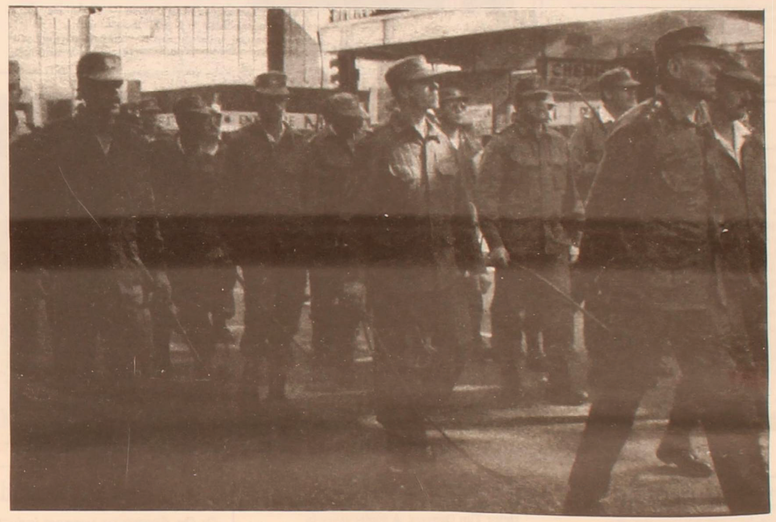
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THE ANARCHIST FORTNIGHTLY

30-6-86

Letter from Chile

ALL STATES DICTATE



The South African police in action. . .

As reported in *Black Flag* no. 152 the anarchist movement in Chile is now fighting for survival, along with other anti-fascist organisations, under the severe state repression of the military junta. We received the following letter from an anarchist in Chile and reproduce it in full in the hope that it will wake up the international anarchist movement to the fact that our comrades in Chile are crying out for solidarity. Read the letter carefully and think about what it means to be an anarchist in Chile today.

Dear Friends,
Greetings and many thanks for replying to my first letter. I eagerly await your next reply.

We were hoping to distribute a leaflet for May Day but couldn't find a sympathetic printer to print it due to the severe state controls here.

Things are so tense throughout the country that even the blind are affected by the repression. They went on a 35 day hunger strike recently, demanding work in the capital . These people are so desperate that one man in fact hung himself and died during the protest. Hunger among some city dwellers is so bad that they are now eating cats and dogs just to survive.

Responsible doctors have reported that several hospitals don't have sufficient blankets to cover new-born babies and are using paper instead. Two young mothers, 20 and 26 years old, died recently in maternity wards as a result of uterus infections caused by sub-standard treatment received while giving birth.

Students have been demonstrating throughout the country for grants and the dismissals of all University Vice-chairmen (appointed by the Army at present). An indefinite students strike has been called and schools were occupied with the help of teachers, provoking more premeditated state repression.

The police, army and Civil guard invaded universities in response, evicting, beating and arresting everyone. Several people were shot and injured.

On the eve of May Day the government carried out a series of raids in several poorer city districts in search of anti-government literature and guns. 1000 arrests were made.

On May Day itself protesters, mainly students, marched through the main streets of Santiago in an angry mood after the government refused permission for a May Day demonstration to be held in a central park. This march was severely repressed by the military and 700 more arrests were made. One protester was shot in the eye.

More recently arrests have been made throughout Chile. 19 teachers and 2 doctors were arrested in Santiago and interrogated in army barracks...

Write soon,
Salud y Lucha,
J.

The conflict in South Africa has intensified dramatically this month. The state of emergency imposed to coincide with the 10th anniversary of Soweto has been the most vicious and extensive attempt yet to crush the growing township rebellion. Thousands have been detained, dozens have been killed and a news blackout enforced in a desperate attempt to conceal the brutal repression which mars Botha's self-styled image as a reformer. The ruling class is in crisis and Botha is sitting uncomfortably on the fence between the liberal businessmen who want reform and the swelling ranks of the AWB (Afrikaans Resistance Movement) who want a return to the 19th century Boer Republics.

In a bid to split the blacks, the security forces have encouraged and aided attacks by the right-wing vigilantes – the 'Witdoeke' – on student activists and trade unionists. Chief Buthelesi's Inkatha Movement, which is behind violent attacks on striking militants of the Confederation of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) in the Natal Province was allowed to hold its own rally in Durban this month while all rallies to commemorate Soweto were banned. Many activists have gone into hiding and significantly the independent trade unions have been amongst the hardest hit by the detentions. Officials and shop stewards from Unions affiliated to COSATU and The Council of Unions of South Africa (CUSA) have been detained. This reflects the growing industrial muscle of black South Africans, which holds the key to the future of apartheid. Ironically the industrial expansion of the sixties not only brought in profits but proletarianised vast numbers of peasant blacks, drawing them into the important manufacturing jobs previously monopolised by whites. The ANC continues to rely on a policy of armed guerrilla struggle, township resistance and international diplomatic pressure but the sort of mass strike which saw millions of black workers stay away from work on the anniversary of Soweto, if escalated, can bring apartheid to its knees. Moreover the pipe-dreams of concilation touted by scum like Bishop Tutu are rapidly losing credibility amongst the 'comrades' who are demanding more AK47 rifles, hand grenades, and bozookas. The ANC has to a large extent been outflanked by the militancy of the student activists, as well as by the growth of independent trade unions. Its policy of a multi-class popular front against apartheid is much influenced by the South Africa CP's belief in a two-stage revolution in which 'socialism' comes a poor second to the creation of a democratic capitalist South Africa. Semi-syndicalist elements within COSATU are anxious to put workers interests before those of nationalist politicians but have not developed a distinct and coherent strategy for workers power.

The situation in South Africa is coming increasingly to resemble that of Poland in which waves of rioting preceded the massive industrial conflict of 1981. Apartheid must not be given a further reprieve as the Polish state was.

As the people of the townships bury their dead, the desire to see apartheid buried for good is expressed in the massive anti-apartheid demonstrations in Britain and the support for the call for sanctions. However the sanctions which western liberals and social democrats demand are intended merely to force Botha to make reforms and save South African capitalism. Thatcher has rejected an economic boycott because she knows that Britain is the biggest single country which invests in South Africa. This is why the Labour Party's call for sanctions is largely hot air since the Labour and trade union bureaucrats have always put nationalist and protectionist interests first.

A revolution in South Africa would deal a damaging blow to British capitalism to which Kinnock and Willis are ultimately loyal. What then is the alternative to government sanctions?

Consumer boycotts and attacks on symbolic targets such as Barclay's Bank have had some success. However this in itself is insufficient. Industrial direct action by rank and file workers is bound to have a greater effect. Shop workers like the Dunnes strikers could refuse to distribute South African products. Dockers and transport workers in road, rail and sea could refuse to handle goods to and from South Africa. Workers in British multinationals which pay starvation wages to Black Africans can forge direct links with union branches in South Africa.
This would ensure in economic stranglehold more deadly than any government's sanctions the Anti-Apartheid Movement, following ANC policy, is merely content to exert 'moral' pressure on the government through consumer boycotts and demonstrations. It is left to us to raise the real issues at stake in the conflict. Not those of diplomatic pressure and democratic rights but direct action by western workers and black working class power in South Africa.

Poland

Dear Black Flag,

Poland is one of the countries where military service is compulsory. Now we are fighting against this enslavement of man. Polish pacifist movement Freedom and Peace and the anarchist Movement of Alternative Society call for a boycott of military service. Over a thousand young people have been arrested for refusing to enter the army. We'd like English anarchists to write protesting letters to The Police Embassy. In 1964 people in East Germany won the chance to not do military service. Maybe we will also win our struggle against the army.

Yours forever,
K. (for Polish Anarchists)

The address of the Polish Embassy is:
47 Portland Place
London W1. Tel: (01) 5804324

Contents

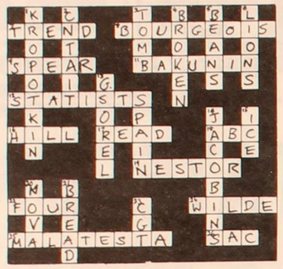
MIDNIGHT PICKETS P. 3
AUSTRALIAN BLACK CROSS P. 5
POLAND P. 6
WHAT MAKES EDDIE RUN ? P. 7

BLACK FLAG – BLACK CROSS
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GIRO ACCOUNT No. ANARCHIST
BLACK CROSS: 51 172 0009.

For a social system based on mutual aid and voluntary co-operation – against State control and all forms of government and economic oppression. To establish a share in the general prosperity for all – the breaking down of racial, religious, national and sex barriers – and to fight for the life of one world.

HOME NEWS

CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Apologies for the missing numbers in the Crossword last issue. Also No. 11 down was the clue for No. 11 across. The proof reader is very ashamed. . .

JUSTICE !

Someone at Carshalton, Surrey, has had his gas supply cut off for non-payment. It's a pretty frustrating business, true. So he barricaded himself in his home with an arsenal of weapons, and held a small party of police at bay.

Good job this wasn't in Brixton or we'd have been hearing about 'terrorists' and the police wouldn't have been 'at bay' but in there shooting. Which in this case would have been a mistake because the guy, far from being a terrorist, was an ex-soldier with 12 years experience in Northern Ireland.

'Armed with three air rifles, an air pistol, an imitation magnum revolver and a harpoon gun' he shot out the lights, shot at the police and had to be overpowered and handcuffed before we would be quietened.

Judge Michael Argyle QC 'dramatically intervened' in the Old Bailey trial. 'You're very lucky to come before me. . . In 1944 I led your regiment across the River Po'. The Judge had been sitting on the Po ever since, it seemed, and identified himself with his old regiment which he said would look after the former Queens Regiment soldier. . . This happened about the same day as a posse of bailiffs was entering Southwark at 5am and throwing everyone on the street. . . the week after Sir Kenneth Newman was displaying the 'horrific weapons' he'd picked up in the picket lines at Wapping (wonder where they came from?)

ANOTHER BLOODY EXCLUSIVE

Another 'Exclusive' in the May 6 edition of the *Daily Mirror* dealt with the gung-ho survivalists of the neo-fascist right. Reporter John Merritt 'exposed' former British Movement leader Michael McLaughlin as the person behind *The Survivalist* magazine. So far so good.

Merritt, however, then comes unstuck when he goes on to have a go at the Soldier of Fortune bookshop and weaponry store at Charing Cross in London and quotes the name of its proprietor Tim Danvers. A leader story in the same edition refers to the far-right survivalists as worthy of police attention. How right they are: Danvers is a former copper and the Soldier of Fortune shop is reguarly listed in the back-pages of a certain, large circulation, magazine - yes, you've guessed it, *Police Review*, the paper of the Police Federation (the police 'trade union').

TODMORDEN

On Sunday, June 8th in total darkness in the small Yorkshire town of Todmorden three police cars were attacked and put out of action by a small group of people. The first in a series. Collect the set! In silence and rain the cars in the private car park opposite the police station were extensively paint-stripped. The locks were glued; all the windows sprayed with glass etching fluid. It's not so much the cost of repairs and replacements, but the sheer inconvenience and the thrill of getting back at the bastards.

The action went undetected until much later, when all three types of fluid had had time to work effectively. No traces were left of our visit save the damage.

Thanks. In solidarity,
Edna Ludd x x x x

LETTER FROM NOTTS

Hello Friends,

Annesley Colliery will close by next year. Already the management are seeking a reduction in the 1,100 workforce. A number of three hundred has been quoted. A Mr. Graveslocke, nicknamed Gravestone the under-manager, is going around the pit asking men what their job it. It appears that their records do not tally with the actual workforce. From the Coal Board's point of view pits in No.4 area have been 'over-manned' now for some time. But the Board were reluctant to sack working miners while the strike was on. Or, until the UDM was hopefully, to them, built up a considerable membership. This hasn't been up to their expectations, or, they have already made a behind-the-scenes deal with Prendergast concerning mine closures.

M, Kirkly-in-Ashfield.

BLOOD SPAN PROTEST

The Trolleys Against South African Savagery (anti-South African Supermarket boycott campaign) have moved onto spraying human blood on SA produce on sale to discourage consumers and retailers. The 'Bloodspan Project' has volunteers give blood and then dilute it with distilled water with disinfectant. They have also been issuing dried blood in bags as samples.

CAPR ACTION

Early this morning, (Friday June 13th) a member of the Campaign Against Police Repression climbed up scaffolding outside New Scotland Yard and hung a banner proclaiming: *CAPR SAYS NO TO NEW POLICE LAWS.*

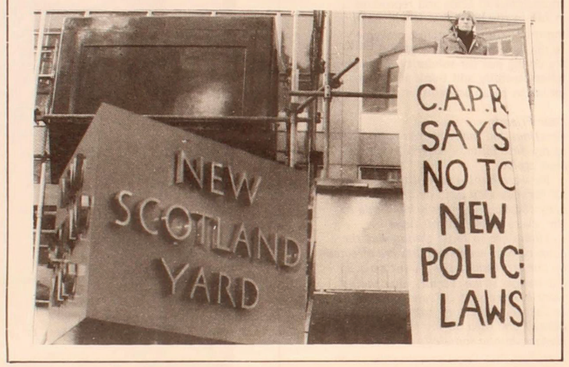
The object of the action was to show our opposition to the New Public Order Bill, which is today starting its second reading in the House of Lords. When passed, the Bill will give the police total control of demonstrations; they will be able to deny people the right to demonstrate by restricting the number of people on marches and pickets; they will be able to decide the route of the march so that it goes nowhere near where the organisers intend; they will be able to decide the location of a picket and also how long the picket should last.

We put up the banner to assert our right to demonstrate. In this country, millions of people *want* the right to demonstrate; that right is being taken away from them. Under the new law, Britain will, with no doubt, be a tyranny and a police state.

Anyone breaking these new restrictions is liable to face a three month prison sentence and a £1000 fine. This new law is undemocratic and denies us our basic freedoms: that is, the right to demonstrate and the right to free speech.

The Saturday after this bill becomes law, the Campaign Against Police Repression, along with other organisations and thousands of individuals, *will break it*. Everybody who wants to stand up for their democratic rights will have to break this law.

Box CAPR,
83 Blackstock Road, London N4.
Tel: 01 881 2938



Question and Answer on Anarchism

Q: Do Anarchists support industrial workers, at the expense of 800 million hungry peasant in the Third World?

A: Genuine unqualified Anarchism is *of* the industrial workers, not 'in support', and – though they are misled by the all-powerful means of persuasion – repression – industrial workers would be naturally of it. When they realise that, we shall have a revolution.

But would this be, as a guilt-ridden greenie paper asked, 'at the expense of 800 million hungry peasants'? Asking the question shows a lack of knowledge of the real world. Most peasants – in the correct sense of the word – aren't starving (but their ex-labourers are); nor are the hungry million exploited by someone slaving away in a factory, or bashing away at a typewriter, in far off England; they are directly exploited by a host of much more reasily identifiable parasites. Nor do they in turn 'exploit' people making (say) pen-knives in Birmingham.

But they supply the food, it is argued. So what? A prisoner in Attica or a concentration camp inmate in Dachau or the Arctic Circle may be living on food from outside, but is hardly exploiting whoever grows it and would gladly change places! Those who are working, or those who are contributing equally to the economy by not being employed and thus taking the brunt of economic repression, cannot in commonsense be exploiting people growing food in other countries, still less those prevented from growing food, and starving. It is a misconceived guilt complex to suggest otherwise.

If the workers would take over production in an industrialised country, what they could exchange with the agricultural 'Third World' (political jargon, meaningless in economic terms) would be to the immediate benefit of all, raising living standards a thousandfold; it is capitalist exchange that makes it a burden to both.

ANARCHA QUIZ

1 Is the term 'welsher' racial abuse?
2 Is the term 'blackleg' racial abuse?
3 What dictum by Andrew Fletcher, of Saltoun, who died in 1716, is now implicit faith by trendy singers?
4 In 1834, General Sebastiani told the French Chamber of Deputies of the fate of Warsaw after the crushing of its rebellion, which has passed into the language of criminal Statism. What was the phrase he used?
5 Obvious what'anarchiste' means in French; but who are the 'enarchistes'?

Answers on page 7

INDUSTRIAL

MIDNIGHT PICKETS HALT 'NEWS OF THE WORLD'

Rupert Murdoch has been forced to stop printing the *News of the World* at Worthing and Bristol after a midnight flying picket at Portobello Web Offset in Worthing.

A 'Souvenir edition' of *The Sun* has been published by Hooligan Press ('th ('those bastard Anarchists') in support of printworkers. It contains lots of exclusives (*Murdoch Fucks Donkeys, Pickets Eat Babies* etc.) and other interesting tit-bits including this medal for all the scabs at Wapping.



Contrary to Murdoch's propaganda about the capacity for printing at Fortress Wapping and the abilities of his scab labour force, he had found it necessary for the last four months to have about 100,000 copies of the *News of the World*-printed at Worthing, and more at other scab set-ups around the country.

The local support group and trades councils had been picketing Portobello valiantly for some 14 weeks when, just before midnight, on Saturday May 10, about 300 flying pickets joined them and for the first time managed to delay the distribution from the plant for three hours.

On this occasion the local police were caught on the hop, only having about six officers on duty when the pickets arrived. Then they started turning up from all over the country.

Yawn

Many were only Special Constables and, as they were yawning and rubbing the sleep out of their eyes, one local bobby came full pelt down the long road on the East Worthing industrial estate on his battered old bicycle.

After delaying the vans getting out for three hours, the pickets held an impromptu meeting in a nearby side road, and decided to to on to the Surridge-Dawson wholesalers in Brighton. The police obviously thought they were going home because none of them were in sight when the pickets arrived at Brighton.

The wholesalers were shut down for the night, and the SOGAT drivers who turned up for work were soon persuaded to go home.

As a result of these successful pickets, the Portobello management sent letters to both SOGAT and NGA threatening legal action is there was a repetition of the incident. Undeterred and armed with the decisions of the SOGAT mass meeting of sacked workers of May 19 which determined that there would be a major stepping up of the national picketing network – more than 400 pickets arrived at Portobello Web Offset on May 24.

When management saw the number of pickets, they obviously decided not to risk it. For the first time in 16 weeks, the *News of the World*, Portobello style, was brought to a full stop.

Source: Wapping Post

PICKET!

For the best up-to-date news of the News International dispute, read the weekly newsheet *Picket* available from London's better bookshops and on the Wapping picket line. Now on its 17th issue!

Tuesday 10th June, Wapping – early morning picket.

We had a good morning in all. Around 300 pickets gathered at Wapping. Think what we could do with 3,000. Looking around there were the same old faces. As usual the scabs were crossing the line. A scab Editor came along and stopped to admire us, but he left pretty sharply, with the crowd of pickets booing. It was raining heavily and the wind was strong. It was miserable weather. The boys in blue seemed on edge. No wonder, the Sun lady cleaners were about! The four musketeers in skirts went to a scab pick up point at Tower Hill to try and persuade the scabs not to try getting on the coach. All was quiet – until the coach pulled in and the doors opened. The 4 musketeers (in skirts) ran for the coach. On beating everyone alse they blocked the entrance. The pickets asked the scabs: 'Are you getting on that coach? ' and they cautiously replied 'Yes'. 'Oh no you're not!' All hell broke loose. The driver's mate tried in vain to pull the scabs on the coach one by one. He knew he had a fight on his hands. The scabs already on the coach could only watch as their colleagues lost their jackets, shirts and shoes. A scab threw a pint of milk over one of the musketeers in a desperate attempt to get her off a scab she had pinned to the floor. He ended up regretting this. He was struck over the head with an umbrella. Another scab left his teeth impressions in one of the musketeers knuckles. The driver, panic-stricken and pale, radioed for help and the musketeers made a hasty retreat. Until the next time!

Source; Picket!

INTERNATIONAL NEWS EXTRA

IRELAND

In Dublin last night (5.6.86) striking employees of Dublin corporations were baton charged by police for attempting to prevent the army from clearing rubbish from Moore Street in the city centre. This is the main area of the city for street traders and quickly becomes chocked up with rubbish if it's not cleared away. The strikers were successful (so far) in stopping the clean-up, but two of them were hurt. The army had earlier cleared rubbish from flats complexes around the city using all their own equipment. The strikers said that they would take the numbers of any corporation vehicles which might be used and black them for ever more. The strike has been going on for over a week and no attempt has been made to settle it. The corporation claims that it's saving them a million pounds a week.

Source: Noel Murray

BELGIUM

At the end of april Belgian miners went on strike against the planned closure of three mines, putting 3000 out of work, as part of a planned 'rationalisation' over the next few years.
Within the first two weeks the union leaders reached a very unfavourable agreement with the government and stopped giving strike pay. But the furious miners continued the strike, in mid-May they even besieged the union buildings, braking windows etc. The strikers have now organised themselves in a central strike committee, (led by Marxist leninists). The strike remained solid at two of the five mines in the Limburg area(employing 20.000 altogether), numbers are fluctuating at the others.
Flying pickets have been used, followed by special army units. The government are looking for a 'McGregor' to 'fix up' the industry for them.
The strikers demand: No job losses, No pit closures, and no 8th nuclear power station in Belgium.

HOLLAND

On May 22nd a huge new police-station was opened in Leiden with much sick mouthing off. Many BigBoys from many countries came to join in the show (the parades, flashing of new motors, etc.) and hold their yearly international –oppression– liason conference.

In the face of this there was a demo and blockade called. The days before the opening there were a few spot-actions. Cop-cars from many countries had their tyres slashed and their bonnets painted. An amnesty International mural on the new station (!) was changed. The text *All people are born in freedom, equality and with equal rights* was completed with *until the police come*. Three people who were arrested for this were held 2 days. The wall was cleaned off, but later filled in with *and Hans Kok then?* (HK was a squatter murdered in police custody)

About 150 people took part in the demo at the opening of the pig-party; all the (international) flags in front of the station were burned and a few windows smashed. The blockade didn't go, however many of the 'festivities' were called off. After the cops tried to move people with pushing and pulling the riot cops were released to 'sweep clean' the area. A few stones were thrown and two unmarked police busses crashed into each other in panic.

The action was over quickly, and Minister De Korte, who had been sheltering in the Electrical showroom over the road, was very quickly brought across the road to open the station. There were five arrests, 3 early on for 'theft of stones' (!) and two later by riot cops. They were all released the same day except for one English person who was shipped back to England.

All in all the planned symbolic moving parade of the station was stopped and the whole show disrupted.

ARGENTINA

The F.O.R.A. (an Anarcho-syndicalist organisation founded in 1901) recently commemorated May Day by staging an open-air meeting in Once Square (Beunos Aires) and by producing a special modest edition of 'Organisacion Obrera',the FORA's official paper.

FORA also hope to open an Anarchist bookshop in the capital and to start publishing 'Organisacion Obrera' on a more regular basis.

Letters of solidarity and financial aid or any of these projects can be sent direct to the FORA *c/o Jesus Gil,C. Salvadores 1200,Buenos Aires C.P. 1167,ARGENTINA*

WEST GERMANY

At Brokdorf in Northern Germany, on Saturday June 14, around 50,000 protesters turned up to wage war against nuclear power. The protesters were joined and supported by local farmers and villagers who provided places to camp and refreshments.

Police used tear gas (dropped from heli copters), water cannons and there were around 200 injuries. Anti-nuclear activists defended themselves with flares, stones and petrol bombs. Police cars were set ablaze. Many demonstrators were unable to get to Brokdorf because of mass police roadblocks. Prior to the protest anarchists gave out leaflets calling for the area to be 'made ungovernable' and 'the destruction of the atomic state.'

On the same day around 40,000 anti-nuclear activists took part in mass protests at the Wackersdorf plant in Bavaria, in the cities of Wurxburg and Munich, and at the nuclear plant at Hamm. At the Wackersdorf plant anti-terrorist police (GSG9) were present and tear gas and water cannon were deployed. Police tactics took on a more offensive approach, with baton charges made after sections of the demonstrators had been temporarily immobilised by water cannon.

Next day rioting broke out in Hamburg as around 2,000 took part; barricades were erected and set alight and police vehicles overturned and torched.

The W. German government and the press accused 'anarchist elements' and 'travelling protesters' of orchestrating the anti-nuclear violence aimed at 'destroying the state'. Television news stories also emphasised the role of the anarchists and showed shots of masked youths, dressed in black, with catapults targetted at riot police. Politicians were also 'painfully aware' that the 'militants' are not without support – violent resistance is growing while the more passive elements of the resistance are willing to provide cover. Local people of all ages are joining in and defending themselves, attacking the cops; the authorities are increasingly worried and are determined to deploy more dangerous weapons and technology.

MORE NUCLEAR LEAKS

1. ***West Germany***. Five weeks ago there was a leak at the Hamm plant in the Ruhr. There was a cover-up afterwards. It took 3 weeks before the plant was shut down.

2. ***Britain***. It has only just been admitted that the crisis at the Dounreay plant last year very nearly led to a nuclear explosion. The actual date of the incident is kept secret although it it thought that it took 11 months for the cause of the incident – the loss of a large amount of untreated plutonium – to be located. Also, on May 31, a fire occurred in the viewing gallery at Sizewell A power station.

YOU COULD FILL THIS SPACE WITH
ANARCHIST NEWS FROM YOUR AREA !

INTERNATIONAL

WHAT'S GOING ON IN GREECE

MAY 9: Anarchists march against the use of nuclear energy. Police intervene, brutally beat and arrest 11 comrades. Seven of them are sentenced to three months prison. They appeal and are set free until the appeal court.
MAY 10: Anarchists organise a motor-cyclists march against nukes. Police intervene and brutally beat comrades.
MAY 13: Anarchists take part in an anti-nuclear march, organised by extra-parliamentary leftists and pacifists. Police motorcyclists attack the Anarchist block. Our comrades answer by throwing petrol bombs. Two police motor cycles are burnt. 9 policemen get injured. 39 comrades are arrested.
MAY 17: The instruction judge orders 13 comrades to be held in custody.
MAY 18: Policemen torture the thirteen, beating them with lashes, in the Security Police Headquarters in Athens.
MAY 19: Minister of Public Order, Ret. Gen. Dryosayanis, says that police make 'preventive' arrests. 'It's better to arrest a hundred innocent people than to let a guilty one escape.'
MAY 22: Police attack a rock festival in Salonica. Arrest 11 comrades who are sentenced to 1 year prison and finally are set free on a 50,000 drs bail per person, until their appeal court. Police attack Exarchia Square in Athens. Many comrades arrested. They see lots of fascists leaflets on the desks on police officers. The comrades are all set free later, next morning.
MAY 23: Police attack violently residents of the Zografou suburb in Athens when they occupy a bulldozer sent by the suburb's major to cut down the trees of a park in order to construct a motorway. Among the arrested is Anarchist Klearhos Smyrneos. On June 2, he is sentenced to 11 months prison.
MAY 25: Fascists manifestate in all main Greek cities, demanding the liberation of the ex-dictator Col George Papadoupoulos. Anarchists organise countermanifestations in Salonica, Patra, Kavala. Policemen aided by fascists attack comrades seriously wounding many of them.
MAY 29: Four comrades are arrested in the city of Lamia for distributing an anti-nuclear poster. In the same time the city is filled up with fascist posters.
MAY 31: Six comrades are sentenced to six months of prison for their participation in a demonstration against the French fascist Le Pen's visit to Greece on December 5th 1984.

JUNE 1: 'Anarchist Action' claims responsibility of the arson attack of a presswork plant in Athens, where the governing party's weekly *Exormisi* is printed, provoking a damage of many millions of drachmas.
JUNE 5: Anarchists occupy the building of the Industrial Studies School in Salonica, in protest against State and police oppression. Police attack them. Comrades decalre they're going to blow up the building if police try to enter. The occupation still goes on!

Dear Comrades,
We badly need your help and solidarity. Write letters or phone the nearest Greek Embassy or Consulate.
- *Minister of Justice, Apostolos Kaklamanis Zimonos & Sokratous Str., Athens – GREECE*
- *Minister of Public Order, Antonis Drosoyannis, 1 Katehaki Str., Athens.*
- *Prime Minister, Andreas Papandreou, Athens – Greece.*
- *President of the Republic , Christos Sourtzetakis, Athens, GREECE.*

Try to mobolise public opinion or Amnesty International branches in your countries.
Act as soon as possible.
Love and anarchy,
Anarchist Groups of Greece

COMRADES HELD IN CUSTODY
Dikastiki Fylaki Korydallou, PIREAS – GREECE
1. Yannis Bali 2. Loukas Bogris
3. Yorgos Kalogeropoulos
4. Kosmas Kokotos
5. Vasilis Maganadelis
Sofronistiko Katastima, Anilikom Korydallou, PIREAS GREECE
6. Thanasis Psiahos
Fylaki Anilikom, Agio Stefanos, PATRA, GREECE
7. Andriakopoulos Spilios
Dikastiki Fylaki, KORINTHOS, GREECE
8. Gamilis Yorgos
Dikastiki Fylaki, IOANNINA, GREECE
9. Andreas Barboutis
Dikastiki Fylaki, NAFPLIO, GREECE
10. Milan Stritesky (Chech).
Dikastiki Fylaki, LARISA, GREECE
11. Yorgos Arapoglou
Dikastiki Fylaki, VOLOS, GREECE
12. Panayotis Galanakis
13. Yorgos Kyprianos



Anarchist Michalis Kaltezas was murdered by police in Athens last year. Who's next?

NOTES FROM DENMARK

A BOOKSHOP CLOSES
The anarchist bookshop in Copenhagen, Nansensgade 43, 1366 Kbh.K. has closed for good. A rise of the rent and the lack of people to run the bookshop during the opening hour finally did away with the bookshop.
The only remaining anarchist bookshop in Denmark is: Regnbuen, Mejlgade 48, 8000 Arhus C, Denmark.



The Anarchist bookshop in Copenhagen

AFTER THE US ATTACK ON LIBYA
On 15th April a demonstration in Copenhagen against the American Nicaraguan policy developed into a protest against the US attack on Libya and the demonstration ended in a clash between demonstrators and police. Two police were hospitalised and three demonstrators arrested.
The windows of the American Express office in Copenhagen were smashed by 4-5 people, who threw teargas inside the office and paint on the front. The British Embassy also had a visit that day. A group of 15-20 people forced their way into the embassy area, lowered the Union Jack halfmast and then escaped.
A demonstration also took place in the second largest city in Denmark: Aarhus with 300 demonstrators participating. The Stars and Stripes was burnt in front of McDonalds Restaurant and smokebombs were thrown etc.
On 18th April about 30 masked people attacked the Honeywell Bull department in Copenhagen. Windows were smashed and smokebombs were thrown into the building. The hooded activists handed round a text saying: 'Attack on Honeywell on 18.4. Stop the NATO war in Nicaragua, Libya, South Africa, Big Mountain and elsewhere. Honeywell is part of the military machine. Rattle, RATTLE' before escaping even before the police could arrive.

BIG MOUNTAIN SYMPATHY ACTIONS
From 18th to the 20th April a number of actions in support of the 11,000 Navajo Indians at Big Mountain, Arizona passed off in six Danish towns. Several known musicians, artists etc. went on stage for free. In Copenhagen about £3,000 was collected, and in Aarhus about £4,000 was handed over to the representative of the Navajo Indians: the medicine man Lame Deer.

CHRISTIANIA LEGALISED
On 16th May the Danish Parliament decided to legalise the Free State of Copenhagen: Christiania, after 15 years of of marginalised existence.
Christiania will slowly be integrated into the surrounding capitalist society through a system of State subsidies. Buildings will be renovated, the unlicensed pubs will get limited licenses etc.
Some anarchists may have illusions about Christiania, but during the recent years the positive elements and the examples of new ways of living were eclipsed by a growing violence and criminality from other outlawed groups, for example, the leather jacks 'Bull Shit', who took over the euphoriant stuff sales, terrorising the original inhabitants, etc.

PRISONERS STRIKE
Five hundred prisoners in three prisons went on a one-day strike on the 12th April in protest against a report from a ministerial appointed committee which recommended *not* to pay prisoners full wages for the work they are doing (by now the prisoners are very low paid). The prisoners were also unsatisfied with the fact that they have not been represented in the committee.
There is an obligation to work in Danish prisons and the strikers were isolated in their cells, being fined and have their wages reduced.

DANGEROUS TOOLS
The Danish criminal authorities have circularised to the prisons that it might be a threat to the order and security if one of the prisoners gets a personal computer in his/her cell. In what way a computer could be a threat, the authorities have no idea (however the idea is fascinating and all Black Cross members should work forward to a solution!).
If a prison governor is in doubt, the matter must be submitted to the highest quarters usually the Prisons Department, which will discuss the 'problem' with the office of the Commissioner of Police.

SOURCE: AFID

ANARCHIST ON HUNGER STRIKE
Orestino Domenichelli is an Italian Anarchist who was arrested in France in mid-September 1985 and has been held in custody ever since.
On May 5th Orestino went on hunger strike in protest against an attempt to extradite him back to Italy, where he is alleged to have taken part in an armed robbery near Carrara.

SPAIN - SMALL VICTORY IN BARCELONA

Just for once, a piece of quite good news. As reported in an earlier article, on the 27th of April seven people (two Dutch and five Barcelonan punks/squatters) were done for allegedly disturbing the peace. What actually happened was that eight local police entered a punk bar, sprayed tear gas everywhere, and beat up the punks when they came stumbling out.
Two eye-witnesses verified this in court while the cops contradicted themselves. When asked why the punk he had detained had to go to hospital later one cop said: 'It wasn't him who had to go to nospital, but me, i'd fallen over while on duty and hurt myself". The Defence then suggested that perhaps the punk had accompanied the officer to hospital in a gesture of goodwill, at which point the presiding judge said: 'This is a court, not a circus'.
Two of the cops on duty that night are now under arrest for maltreatment of prisoners and illegal arrest.
Even *El Pais* (the Spanish *Guardian*) gave credence to the punks' version of events. Anyway, the quite good news is that after two and a half weeks in the Modelo, Trinitat and Wad-Ras prisons, all seven were releaseu on suspended sentences of up to one year, despite the fact that the Prosecutor acting for the municipal police had asked for four years imprisonment per person.
This release was due to the tremendous support the punks got: the CNT-AIT independent feminist groups, Catalan gays, the autonomous bike messengers' union (which staged a spectacular demo outside the courthouse), OAP's organisations, neighbourhood groups, and even an association of local journalists – who personally intervened with the mayor of Barna in support of the punks – and dozens of other groups (37 in all) all did what they could to get the punks released. This hopefully, means an end to the I'm-going-to-nick-you-and-beat-the-shit-out-of-you-just-cause-I-think-you-look-a-bit-odd policy followed by all three police forces operating in the Barcelona area. I've heard dozens of stories already about indiscriminate beatings and harassment on behalf of the forces of law & order, usually against the punks or any other person who they think is sufficiently marginalised to not stir up a fuss. Now that they've discovered that people who they evidently consider to be the scum of the earth can mobilise so many in their support, they will be a bit more careful.
In *El Periodico* – Catalonia's answer to the *Mirror* – squatters were described as "Neo-anarchist movement, close in spirit to some ecologists, dedicated to the occupation of disused buildings; they are pacific people, constructive, interested in creating centres and meeting-places as well as new places to live. They follow West German and Dutch models.'
The most active anarchopunk/squatter /alternative centre in Barcelona is the *Kafe Volter, Agullers 18, Barcelona.*
Anyone wanting full details of the libertarian centres, CNT-AIT offices, anti-militarist organisations, Barcelona anarcho-youth group (PUAJ, which has organised dozens of benefit concerts and demos for those nicked) etc. can write to: *Dolor de Tripas, Apartado de Correos 35152, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain.*
As I write the streets of Barcelona are covered in teeth. most of them belonging to beady-eyed 'European-style' Spanish politicians asking for people to vote for them: from every corner, lamppost, wall they are offering tantalising new definitions of the future. One of them, Miguel Roca, leader of the liberal opposition went to visit the gypsy shantytown of La Mina near Barcelona on the 1st of June; the gypsies, seeing all the photographers crowding around him, thought he was Gonzalez, the current 'socialist' president, and stood back in awe, crying 'the president's coming.' Maybe they even convinced him. .all the political parties are worried about general disillusion with politicians and what with the World Cup, there's going to be a large abstention. To combat this they're putting out a series of ads with the theme *Go and vote. Voting helps you meet people. Voting, people get to understand each other.*

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

ANTI-MILITARIST ON EXPLOSIVES CHARGE

Paul Moussault, the editor of the Netherlands based anti-militarist news network *De Knipselkrant*, has been arrested on a charge, which he denies, relating to the importing of explosive substances.
Moussault has for years published and distributed news on prisoners and their support campaigns and his arrest is more a symptom of the general paranoia within the West European security services.
On Sunday May 4, early in the morning, Moussault was arrested by armed police as he was leaving his home in Groningen. He is under suspicion of having been involved in the import of a kilogram of TNT into the Netherlands on May 1st, for which a Japanese person was arrested that day at Schiphol. According to the Public Prosecutor Moussault either imported the TNT together with this Japanese person, or had 'incited' that import by 'supplying opportunity, means and or information.' Up to the present this suspicion is only 'based' on two clues. Firstly: it would appear from the comparison of the in- and out- stamps in the passports of the Japanese person and Moussault that both of them were on the night of 17 to 18 April 1986 in the same town, that is Belgrado, and 'consequently' could have met each other.
Secondly: a porter at the Marriot-hotel has testified to the detective force of the aviation service of Schipol on Monday 5th May (a day and a half *after* his arrest) that one man, answering the description of Moussault, asked him on May 1st in the evening for the room-number of a Japanese person whose name the porter could not remember any more. However, the porter mentions in his statement (not signed) a rather big man of about 35 age with a black tuft of hair on his chin, whereas Moussault is ten years younger, wears a reddish beard and is slightly built.
Moussault has been the principal editor of *De Knipselkrant* for many years. This weekly publication, published in three languages, includes statements and press-reports from 175 daily papers and magazines about armed resistance and political prisoners in Western Europe, anti-imperialistic resistance, anti-nuclear power movement, anti-militarism, secret services, counterinsurgency and fascism.
De Knipselkrant has been a thorn in the flesh of internal and foreign secret services for years. For a 'public discussion about the policy of guerrilla warfare is not allowed to happen' (Helmut Schmidt) However, that is particularly what *De Knipselkrant* aims at: 'communication about revolutionary policy in Western Europe'.
On January 18 1985, two BVD (West German State Security) agents visted Moussault to talk to him about the hunger-strike of RAF (Red Army Fraction) prisoners then going on and about his supposed contacts with armed resistance groups such as the CCC (Fighting Communist Cells) of Belgium and RAF of West Germany, which conversation Moussault refused. In the next month an international (press) campaign was run against *De Knipselkrant*. At the end of January '86 the West German state security services tried to forbid an 'anti-imperialistic conference' to be held in Frankfurt, in which two thousand people participated, also on account of a special issue of *De Knipselkrant* about this conference circulated on the spot.
Currently Moussault is being held in Utrech prison. We have no further details but will update this story as news comes through.
For an attempt at a similar (press) campaign here see *Black Flag 155* article *Not Another Exclusive*. So far there has been no attempt to frame up ourselves by the police here. In Berlin the magazine *Radikal* was closed down by the police and forced to publish from Swizerland.

SUPPORT THE ABC !

AUSTRALIA
BLACK CROSS GROUP FOUNDED

On the 6th of May, 1986, a Melbourne branch of the international organisation, Anarchist Black Cross was formed, with the following goals:
1). – to support Anarchist prisoners in Australia and abroad;
2). – to support prisoners in Australia accused of political offences;
3). – to communicate with branches of Anarchist Black Cross around Australia and abroad;
4). – to aid victims of persecution on grounds of belief, ethnic or national identity, or moral stance;
5). –to act a prisoners' support group, and to cooperate with other support groups in Australia;
6). – to work towards dismantling the prison system, and associated systems of enforced detention

HISTORY
The movement was first set up under the the name of 'Anarchist Red Cross' in Tsarist Russia to organise aid for political prisoners and deportees. and was active against anti-Semitic persecution. The name was later changed to Anarchist Black Cross to avoid confusion with the Red Cross, also active during the Russian Civil War.
After the Russian Revolution it moved its base to Berlin, where it helped Italian and German political prisoners. During this this period much aid came from Anarchists in the United States, notably Chicago. The Depression and the Second World War forced it into a period of inactivity.
It was revived in Britain in the sixties to aid Spanish Anarchists in jail. Financial and moral support was sent to prisoners, and pressure was successfully placed on governments to secure the release of some individuals through causing international embarassment.
Black Cross groups sprang up in many countries, mainly Europe and the USA.

STRUCTURE
At the May Anarchist Conference in Melbourne, some individuals spoke of the plight of a Japanese Anarchist sympathiser, K. Omori, falsely accused of bombing government offices in Hokkaido in 1976. He is being supported by Black Cross members in Japan, who believe the Japanese government want him out of the way because of his support for Japan's oppressed indigenous group, the Ainu. Internationally, Black Cross groups are campaigning to have his death sentence repealed, and for his release.
This discussion led to the belief of a number of people that Australian Anarchist participation in this campaign was needed. A Black Cross group was set up in Melbourne, and groups are being set up in other states.

THE AUSTRALIAN PRISON SYSTEM
The seven year wrongful imprisonment of Alister, Dunn and Anderson, allegedly for bombing the Hilton Hotel in Sydney points to the potential need for Black Cross work in Australia, and the need for concerned people to be in touch with each other. Not only have we recent, vivid evidence that Australia is not free from the phenomenon of political incarceration, but we know that Australian governments can and will frame people if they want to. We are also concerned about appalling conditions and brutality in prisons in general.
The law makes it inevitable that some groups of people will be incarcerated in much greater proportions than others. Forces of 'law and order' focus, for instance unemployed youth, Aboriginals, drug users and people in fringe occupations such as prostitutes, while the real crimes of the system go unpunished. As Anarchists we have a responsibility to concern ourselves with prison issues, and the eventual abolition of all forms of imprisonment.
We strongly appeal for information from people concerned about the prison system and particular instances of its abuse. It is very important at this stage that people interested in these issues get together and communicate.

Please write to:
A.B.C. c/o
P.O. Box 1066
North Richmond 3121
Melbourne, Australia.

LONDON ABC NOTE:
We urge all ABC groups and sympathisers to contact the Melbourne ABC now and from now on exchange news, views and publications with them. Long live international solidarity!



FROM A US PRISON

Dear friends,
At long last I am finally getting around to writing once again. Has it really been seven months since I received your letter? Many, many apologies for taking so long to respond, but I have been somewhat preoccupied of late (yes, even prisoners can find things to do). For one thing, as my release next spring draws nearer, I am forced to give considerable attention to my few, rather limited, options. Amazingly, the state will gladly spend horrendous amounts of money to imprison people, what with the court system and the prisons themselves, but next to nothing exists to assist prisoners in attempting to reintegrate themselves back into society. Not that it should be expected, since the criminal (in) justice system is designed with the expectation of a very high rate of recidivism – it is a very profitable system and a ready supply of prisoners must be constantly available. Of course, I am somewhat lucky in that the bastille that I am presently caged in is rather low in security and the majority of prisoners and guards are quite content to daily concern themselves with attempting to manipulate one another, which, in a very simplistic manner, is what most people in society are doing.
Naturally, in such a state of affairs the baconcrats (prison administrators) generally have things their way, without being overly concerned about any sense of unity among prisoners. Then, too most prisoners are too totally involved with their own selfish petty lives. As a consequence, the baconcrats have been able to isolate most of the politically active prisoners who are able to act in a leadership role. The most common dumping ground is the federal prison at Marion, Ohio, which I am sure you have heard considerable about.
Unfortunately for the state, most prisons are so overcrowded – most to double capacity and more – that they actually have very little control over goings on and must rely upon various psychological ploys to maintain any semblance of control. It would appear to be an opportune situation for prisoners, but as I said previously, prisoners, for the most part, are too wrapped up in their individual affairs. As for myself, aside from corresponding with an ever widening circle of anarchists, many of whom have contacted me as a result of your printing one of my previous letters, I have taken to writing long, convoluted letters to government officials, posing intricate questions requiring considerable research into the answer. Certainly not much of a monkey-wrench to throw into the system, but who is to say which straw it will be that eventually breaks the camel's back.
From all that I am able to learn from my somewhat secluded situation, the jingos now openly run rampant through the land and each new escapade of imperialistic military adventurism on the part of Raygun appears to add to their number and following. Could it be that Rambo lays at the end of the rainbow instead of the pot of gold? It certainly is disheartening, especially now that it appears that the standard response of the American people to any major problem is to hold some big affair with massive media coverage, all of which are doomed to failure before starting or totally fail to address the underlying causes of the particular problem.
A good example is the 'Hands Across America' spectacle recently. Millions of Americans are homeless and countless more are existing on starvation levels. While attention has been focused on their plight for this brief moment, it is really all for naught because they will all too soon be forgotten once again when the next great cause to excite the masses comes along. The simple truth is that the vast majority of Americans appear quite unwilling to face up to the sick and decaying society in which they exist and are literally totally oblivious to what is going on around them in the world today.
It seems to me that Europeans are much more prepared to stand up to state abuse (not that much headway is being made), that I am at a loss to understand why Americans – the majority of whom share common histories with Europeans – are so much more susceptible to the lies that the state expounds in order to enhance its continued existence. It certainly is disconcerting for anyone who is forced to daily view the evil system at work first hand. Thus, sitting in this Bastille day after day it is sometimes quite difficult for me to understand why supposedly rational people persist in acting like sheep. Must the quest for individual freedom be a conditioned response? Can it be so easily subdued, if not totally eradicated? What is it going to take to open people's eyes? I detest sounding the pessimist, but so long as immature children are permitted to run the affairs of our world I forsee little hope for any of us. In the meantime, anything that any of us do seems little more than like plugging one hole in a giant sieve.
At least I have *BF* (I literally devour each issue) and what other little anarchist literature comes my way; in this small way I know that there still exists a few in the world who refuse to surrender. And it is that knowledge that provides hope that somehow, some day, some way, there will come dramatic changes in the way in which people not only view themselves, but their relationships with their fellow living beings. It is for that day that I live and struggle so that all may be equal, and in their equality be free, truly free.

Yours in solidarity,

Leonard F. Tate
C-36957, Dorm 31
P.O. Box 3535
Norco, California 91760 USA

GERMANY
SOLIDARITY NEEDED

Roger Szatkowski arrived in Berlin during the summer of 1985. A native of France, his German is very limited. Roger was arrested during a demonstration in protest against the death of Gunter Sare, during which violent confrontations with the police took place. He was then kept in preventative detention for two months with out any contact with the outside. According to fellow prisoners, it was only during the month of December that it became apparent that he was being held in preventive detention.
His trial, on December 19 1985, took place partly behind closed doors, and he was unable to defend himself properly as he was obliged to use a translator. He got a two year sentence without an option for parole and is appealing his sentence.
Roger remains very isolated. He is undergoing difficult prison conditions (with the anonymity of not knowing the language reinforcing them even more).
Roger considers that his arbitrary and discriminatory incarceration owes nothing to chance; it is representative of a coherent political pattern of repression. He would like to make this information more widely available. He also wishes to receive letters and news from your area to break his isolation. His address is:
Roger Szatkowski,
1 Berlin 21,
Alt-Moabit 12 A, Germany.

SOURCE: The International Relations Committee of the French Anarchist Federation.
Translated from *Le Monde Libertaire 616.*

POLAND

A NATURAL AVERSION TO 'RED'

The following article is reprinted from Voice of Solidarity **(April 1986). It concerns the problems faced by young people in Poland today and details their interest in Anarchism.**

From another source (IZTOK) **we've heard that a libertarian review is being published in Gdansk called** Homek.

More news of the Anarchist movement in Poland is future issues of Black Flag. . .

I have been concerned with the problem of youth for some time now. I talk to "Solidarnosc" activists, I try to bring it up at various meetings. Everybody agrees with me that the problem is very important but nothing more happens. Not because of ill will but because of helplessness. Nobody knows what to do with 16 to 20 year olds really; there are no plans for any joint action. In "Solidarnosc" they think in terms of stereotypes, they say: we have to wait until they are more mature, when they will be workers or students - then we will help them.

I think that people in the 17 to 20 age group today are an incredibly bitter generation. They are sadder than our own generation. I do not know what they are going to do later. Maybe they will import arms and not what we were importing - duplicating machines. After all what sort of future do they have? In their songs they sing: "I will get a flat in 2010", hearing that, one is overwhelmed by despair. This really is total hopelessness. And yet they are trying to do something and in a more or less organised way, they are trying to give their lives some meaning. How many of those rebels are there? Even if they only form a small minority it is a significant minority.

In the abysmally sad reality of the Polish People's Republic in this grayness young people are looking for a road they could take, a way to make themselves somehow different, in an effort to do something. And they are paying a high price for this. The regime will strike at young people because it is afraid of them. The most tragic examples are Grzegorz Przemyk and Marcin Antonowicz (both died after being detained by the police - Ed.).

We can think what we like but the punks with their pink hair, earrings, studded jackets, are also seeking some form of freedom. And freedom after all should be something we hold dear, though for my generation this mainly musical youth sub-culture, is strange and incomprehensible. But for them it is a way of life, an ideology, which is almost a religion. Punks, those who like reggae music and followers of Polish rastafarianism belong to the youth international. In Poland, punks get it bad for those gestures of freedom. The Cops take them into dark corners and beat them up simply for the way they look. I know 16 and 17 year-olds who get locked up for 48 hours at least once a month.

Last year Gdansk saw the emergence of the Movement for an Alternative Society (RSA). Its members were most visible during the 1st May parade in 1985. Several hundred people - pink and green hair sticking up; black jackets and everyone wearing blue glasses. The whole thing looked incredibly dramatic. They carried vast black banners with slogans written in blood-red saying "Solidarnosc is fighting". Their get-up is generally with elements borrowed from "Solidarnosc" and the black anarchists.

Those boys are mostly pupils from occupational schools (in Poland there are basically three types of schools at secondary school level for pupils of various degrees of ability: Liceum -for the most able - does not give any professional qualifications but the brightest pupils can hope to get to university, "szkola zawodowa" - for the least able - offers basic occupational skills. "Technikum" - can be placed somewhere in the middle. Both "technikum" and "szkola zawodowa" can be labelled "occupational schools" - Ed.) but some of them are students. The majority of them live in the workers' districts of Grabowek and Chylonia (as in the ballad about December'70: "The boys from G..., the boys from Ch..."). Another common factor is that they are all "Lechia" fans - Gdansk football club and "Lechia'e" football stadium is one of their meeting places.

I have read their anarchic-pacifist ideological declarations. But their pacifism is of a rather special kind - they believe that one should not



passively give oneself up when attacked, e.g. by the ZOMO. I know that they want to animate young people, that they want to be noticed by the Reds. They are very visible in all the places where 16-20 year olds meet. Last year, during the Jarocin rock festival they were the only ones to appeal to the gathered youth. Nobody else exploited that fantastic opportunity of addressing more than 20 thousand young people gathered there. In Jarocin, RSA members distributed very good anti-election leaflets (Sejm elections of October last year - Ed.). The same happened on the pilgrimage to Czestochowa, where they turned up despite the fact that their ideology is areligious.

They participate in street actions, too - distributing leaflets, painting slogans, and are most active during demonstrations, defending themselves against the ZOMO. They believed that one should prepare oneself for a demonstration by coming in masks and balaclava helmets. We may regard this as infantile but in Nowa Huta, for example, (near Krakow - Ed.) many people were identified and detained on the basis of photographs, I observe them and wonder in which direction they are going. Nothing is definite yet - they may turn out to be a mere transient phenomenon which will dissipate soon, but they may also turn to fascism, resort to terrorism, or alternately - this movement may mature.

The RSA identifies itself with the movement of resistance against the reds whom it spontaneously and naturally abhors. Yet at the same time the movement has a very critical attitude towards "Solidarnosc" leading figures. For them these are yesterday's people, has-beens. Everything that is happening in the Churches, all our masses, meetings, singing, victory signs, is belittled by them. They think they can do it better, that they will not be so terribly indolent as in their opinion we are. Indeed, they are very active. They travel around Poland looking for contacts, distributing their own paper Homek. They had the best rapport with workers of the Lenin Steelworks (near Krakow - Ed.) - after all the youngest among them belong to the same generation. I have seen two papers printed by the steelworks which, in two consecutive issues printed the RSA's declaration (in full), including a report of one of their street actions and an interview with one of them.

There are the rudiments of a similar movement in Wroclaw. Editors of a paper called Zero appeal to young people whom they would not reach through any "Solidarnosc" ramifications. The editors believe that this generation cannot be formed on novels by Zeromski (one of the most famous classical Polish writers - Ed.) or on any other classics of literature or history. For that reason Zero writes a lot about the youth sub-culture almost always beginning with a review of recordings of groups such as "Izrael" or "Butapren". Zero's editors do not receive support from the "Solidarnosc" establishment or the Church. Indeed, they are frequently confronted with disdain, yet they feel satisfied, for they have found a clientele among young people.

Entirely different, though of a similar age, are young people associated with school papers and self-education circles. This is something, which differentiates them strongly from RSA people, who are not interested in classical subjects of independent education: modern history, politics, union matters. They (RSA members - Ed.) would most probably be interested in the pragmatic aspects of street behaviour, or more generally the question of how to form a conspiracy. When I talked to them they showed interest in lectures on anarchism.

Liceum (see note above) pupils and students belonging to these self-education circles constitute the elite of young people. From the organisational point of view, their meetings resemble the flying universities which functioned during the German occupation. The greatest number of such groups is in Wroclaw - last year, I counted 70. Every so often, they dissolve, as the young people complete their school education, but new candidates shoot up like mushrooms after the rain. Only a month ago, there were 26 circles in Wroclaw, now there are nearly 40 of them. I know of one liceum where they have 10 self-education circles comprising 1/3 of all of the pupils. These young people are very much interested in "Solidarnosc". They invite activists who are able to speak to them about the history of the 16 months which followed August, as well as about the underground. in my opinion these are our future cadres.

The Federation of Fighting Youth (FMW) initiated by Warsaw liceums pupils turned with a direct appeal to "Solidarnosc". FMW explicitly recognizes "Solidarnosc" values as its own and declares loyalty to TKK (Temporary Co-ordinating Commission - Ed.). On the one hand, it expects the union to provide, ideological, technical and financial help and on the other - to allocate them certain tasks to fulfill. However, they would like to preserve their independence as a group. They took part in last year's leaflet actions against price rises and in the elections (to the Sejm - Ed.) action. They attempt to work in self-governments and publish school papers. On 13th December 1985 they organised "silent breaks".

FMW extends beyond Warsaw: delegations from Gdansk, Wroclaw, Nowa Huta and Gorzow came to the National Congress of the Federation. They also have contacts with RSA. None of the structures of "Solidarnosc" shows much interest in co-operating with FMW though recently this has been slowly changing.

"Freedom and Peace" - a group united around the refusal to take the military oath and to serve as conscripts in the army has a special place among independent youth movement. This elitist group is distinguished by the openess of their actions. Several dozen people signed the declaration of the movement and sent their military ID cards back to the Ministry of Defence. They are also somewhat older - some of them are over 30. When I consider their chances, I think that they may find support among Western pacifists.

I am not saying anything about the Catholic youth organised in the Oazis movement because I do not know much about them. Yet I am aware that this is a mass movement and that we share similar values.

From what has been said about youth movements it should be clear that they are varied and valuable. Unfortunately, "Solidarnosc" as an organisation does next to nothing about the youth, possibly with the exception of the self-education movement. Yet I believe that the union should encurage and help, and I do not understand those activists who are against involving young people in anything, even in samizdat publishing.

Tygodnik Mazowsze No.154
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COMMENT

TODAY'S SHAH

WHAT MAKES EDDIE RUN?



Police and pickets clash at Wapping. Murdoch has learnt a lot from Eddie Shah.

Selim Shah comes from a minor branch of the Aga Khan dynasty; though his side of the family seems not to be getting the cash flow, the proximity to millions always stands one in good stead in the financial market. (It is well known that a noticed cosy chat with the right people at the right time is better than any actual business they might give you. It inspires confidence among the punters).

He is also the type loved by Mrs Thatcher: the thrusting entrepreneur, who emigrates to a country with nothing, and 'works his way up' to a fortune. Tories may cherish the memory of Benjamin Disraeli, but he would be a 'wet' today: the philosophy that gets Maggie is that of Isaac Wolfson.

Eddie Shah tried his hand at television making but moved on quickly to space selling. The space salesman (sic) is a breed unto themselves. Typically he is an aggressive male who trades on people's politeness and so forces them to buy what they neither want or need. A rash of encyclopaedias, trade directories and so on used these go-getting types to sell 'entries' into directories, some of which actually appeared, working solely on commission. The less pushful spent the week trudging around not even making a living wage (the firm employing them couldn't lose). The aggressive, successful occasionally thought they could do the same thing for themselves, and the resultant rash of phoney directories finally illegalised the whole racket.

In this ruthless environment solidarity, compassion, ordinary common decency courtesy, could not possibly mean anything. It was a jungle. Eddie Shah learned all the methods of jungle warfare (which had elsewhere been trimmed and cultivated in the welfare state atmosphere of port-war capitalism) and stole a march on everyone.

His way out was to produce free newspapers carrying cut-price advertising. It had been done before. What he contributed to it – which led to an entire capitalist counter-revolution in the world of printing – was his confrontation with the print unions, in order to produce cheaply by cutting labour costs.

The print unions had become so powerful, like other unions but more so and, through its 'political wing' in 'this great movement of ours', so integrated into the establishment that it thought it was safe. They tried to cool down the passions raised by Shah's first confrontation with the unions. They did not realise how carefully Thatcher had planned the great capitalist turn-round.

One means of repression was the planned growth of unemployment, causing a fear of losing jobs and a readiness to undertake scab jobs. The other was the new sequestration laws, and the way unions could have their assets seized by contravening the picketing laws. This Murdoch later expanded by an adroit use of the limited company laws (by which one person can be any number of separate legal entities), and when one company is subject to strike action the others can now claim they are being hit unjustly by 'secondary action'.

During his provincial battles the hitherto unknown Shah attracted the attention of major financial interests. They saw with interest how he was waging war on the union movement. He brought out plans for the packaging of a daily newspaper with colour printing, change of news 24 hours a day satellite coverage, cheaper advertising rates... everything indeed but *content*. But what space salesman ever bothered about that?

What major capitalist interest would have invested but for the grand chance to get a bash at the unions? But more, how many would do it for solely political returns?

It is interesting to note that it was the Bank of Hungary. Is there more to this than the desire of Hungarian State bosses to make a quick zloty? There are many safer projects than newspapers – especially when all are claming to be 'losing money'. Can it be that in their mind was the desire to smash British trade unionism? (Note the success of Maxwell in the Soviet-dominated countries).

Whether that's the case or not perhaps we shall never know until the Hungarian workers defy the Russian tanks and overthrow their bosses, release the archives or perhaps when the Official Receiver examines Shah in bankruptcy. What is certain is that when Eddie Shah brought out *Today*, having caused every newspaper proprietor to panic, it proved exactly to be a space salesman's idea of a free giveaway (only it was priced). Because Murdoch and Maxwell hogged the headlines with the dodges they were up to, little attention has been paid to it.

THE RESULT OF SHAH

In itself, *Today* – as a journal – is a nothing, catering for no one in particular, as bland as any giveaway could be. But it has caused a revolution in Fleet Street because, to meet the challenge of Shah (which has been stated openly to employees by Fleet Street bosses) the entire industry has been downgraded.

One is aware that nobody loves the Fleet Street printworkers. Some associate them with the trash they print (nobody ever blames the journalists: like actins, it's a glamour profession and everyone likes them). Above all, 'too many printers have earned too much' for people to like them. It must be remembered though that those who got high wages had to fight for it and they didn't get the money from easy going philantrophists, but from the most ruthless power-seeking tycoons in the land.

The NGA, whose craft is threatened and likely to die, aren't the people who suffer most when people like Murdoch sack staff wholesale. The majority of print unions consist of lower paid workers – and the ones who are thrown out of jobs come into that category. They are secretaries, librarians and did jobs like working in the canteen, answered the telephone – and didn't actually have a dispute nor were their skills redundant. They had all to be treated the same – ie kicked out – to make the kicking out without redundancy pay conform to legal requirements.

And it is important to everyone that the printworkers were the *strongest* organised union. With the miners defeated, if the printers are defeated, what chance is there for such trades as nursing, say, or catering? With the double-barrelled gun of legal action and unemployment the State will have it all its own way . . unless there is a major change-round swiftly. The pressure on Murdoch is mounting: and something has to give. However much the politicos try to cash in on the struggle, it has to go on.

CHOKING ON THE DEBT

With an external debt of more than 370 billion dollars, Latin America is on the brink of asphyxiation. As the burden of the debt crushes the local economies, serious recessions are taking place in a region in which more than one hundred million people are already living below the poverty line.

THE IMF STEPS IN

For the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the problem is simple: Latin America should pay up regardless of the local impact. The IMF 'recovery plan' consists of two conditions: local exports are to be increased, and expenses in all categories reduced. But this approach obviously avoids taking the damaged economic structures of Latin American countries into account. Furthermore, it is crystal clear that in the event of increased commodity production in Latin America, the resulting competition would cause a decrease in retail prices, and run up against the protectionist policies of the industrialised states as well.

By 1982-3, the amount of goods imported into Latin America from the West had already dropped to half the previous level. Imports of food products have decreased, and local agricultural production is lower too. This continually worsening situation has resulted in more and more cases of malnutrition amongst the poor.

The disasterous austerity policies imposed by the IMF are oblivious to the specific situation in each country. IMF policies have provoked currency devaluations, fewer investments and capital flight. Between 1979 and 1982 alone, one hundred billion dollars has been gobbled up by the American Banks. Since 1982 this tendency has become even more pronounced. The austerity measures have caused the dismantling of public services, a general lowering of salaries and increase in the price of commodities.

MASSIVE RESISTANCE

The reaction to this situation has been immediate: riots in Santo Domingo in 1984, as well as general strikes and demonstrations in numerous countries. In July 1985, representatives of 37 countries met in Havana to discuss the crucial problem of the debt. After many speeches no consensus was reached.

On October 23, 1985 demonstrations against the debt brought together 70,000 people in Mexico, 25,000 in Peru and lesser numbers in Chile, Brazil and Columbia.

In Argentina, a 'war economy' is in place and salaries have been frozen for 'as long as necessary'. Because of galloping inflation, the purchasing power of people has fallen. and the number of sackings has multiplied. On January 24, 1986 another general strike took place, the fourth since the Alfonsin government took office.

The most bitter confrontation is undoubtedly taking place in Bolivia, the second poorest country after Haiti. On August 29, 1985 some measures were announced which resulted in a 1,300% devaluation of the Peso. Salaries have been frozen, whereas the ability to raise prices and to sack workers remains intact. The powerful C.O.B. union called a general strike on September 5, 1985 and then an unlimited strike on September 17, backed by a widely-followed hunger strike. The government responded by threatening a state of emergency, and two hundred union organisers were banished to the Amazon region of the country.

Faced with the government's intransigence, the miners called off the strike in the beginning of October. On January 23, 1986 the C.O.B. called a new general strike. But since the August measures came into effect, there is already talk of 10,000 workers having been sacked in the capital, and 30,000 more in the public sector including 17,000 teachers, workers in the tin mines, the natural gas sector etc.

Similar to Argentina in 1985, Brazil altered its currency a few weeks ago in keeping with other measures already implemented. Here too, the situation is tense. On January 10, the San Luis city hall was attacked and burned down by thousands of workers after news of 14,500 impending sackings was confirmed.

WHY THE DEBT?

The source of the debt can be traced to attempts to implement grandiose projects and to local corruption. In other words, it is almost exclusively the ruling class and privileged classes of the respective countries which have benefited. People in general have only received leftover crumbs. The responsibility of the United States is blatant, because Latin America is the principle object of American investments and the major source of raw materials.

At the present time, none of these countries are in a position to develop their economies. In Argentina, 52% of export revenue goes towards the debt. In Bolivia, the amount is even higher at 57%.

Therefore, the debt has become the regions principal preoccupation, representing the most serious crisis to occur in Latin American history (even the events of 1929 did not have as catastrophic repercussions). Attempts to provoke a new recession in the present inflationary period as a means of resolving the situation is not a viable solution, because the local economies are too near the breaking point.

Peru is now deciding unilaterally when and if debts are to be repaid; for over a year Brazil has signed no agreements with the IMF; following the drop in oil prices, Mexico and Venezuela[1] are rethinking past agreements. However, these measures are relatively hesitant, considering the nature of the crisis at present.

Victim of international capitalist exploitation and ground rules which favour the richest countries, in Latin America misery and famine have become everyday occurences as the banks exert the crudest forms of profiteering with the complicity of the local ruling classes. Will even more sacrifices be asked!

Jean Claude (Groupe Kropotkin of the Anarchist Federation).

Translated from *Le Monde Libertaire 611* by M.W.

(1). Oil revenues represent 70% of Mexico's income. For Venezuela, they represent 90%.

LETTER FROM CLASS WAR

Comrades,

We felt we had to add some points to your article on the press in which you mentioned Peter Edge's presence in Bristol. We felt we had to allay fears about the security of Anarchism in Bristol. In the case of Peter Edge, we have been fully aware of the situation and aware of the dangers of him living in the city. Although we have had no direct contact with him , we have made efforts to find out who he is. He has nothing to do with active class struggle anarchism in the city and while we are here, will have nothing to do with it.

We thought that your article brought to light many of the security risks within the Anarchist movement in Britain. They flourish mainly because Anarchists continue to remain within a lifestyle ghetto, which attracts all kinds of dodgy characters.

The most dubious role is played by 'radical' journalists. Their 'political' front cannot hide the fact they are more interested in a story than a social revolution. More interested in themselves than others safety. As with any unknown person joining Anarchist circles, in whatever role we believe that if they are sincere (Ha!) they shouldn't mind us checking up on their past and if we're not satisfied with what we find, rejecting them.

In solidarity,
Bristol Class War

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

1. *Yes. It refers to a defaulting bookmaker and is an allusion to his alleged racial origins. It has nothing to do with the Cymric people ('Welsh' in the English language); it comes from German, and in German-American slang, it means (depreciatingly) Italians. In the last century, American bookmaking was one of the first domains of the Mafia, and all Italians got blamed.*
2. *The riverside gamblers on the Mississippi hired thugs to cause commotion so as to break up 'lucky strikes' when the gambling house was on a losing run. As they wore black leggings, they were referred to as blacklegs and, later, hired company thugs used as 'strikebreakers' in the industrial sense were therefore called blacklegs. Other origins are fanciful but it was never intended or regarded as conceivably racially abuse until very recently, in some quarters.*
3. *'If a man were permitted to make the ballads, he need not care who should make the laws of a nation'.*
4. *Warsaw having been devastated and decimated, Gen. Sebastiani announced that 'Order reigns in Warsaw'.*
5. *The socialist intellectual mandarins (opposite of anarchists!) come from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA); the 'enarchs' pass exams so fierce that only 85 out of 1000 get into the school, of whom only fifteen get into the elite services.*